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## **GLENDALÉ SELECTS AEG FACILITIES FOR ARENA MANAGEMENT** *Negotiations to Begin with Owner/Operator of World-Class Venues and Sports Franchises*

**GLENDALÉ, Ariz.** – (February 3, 2016) The [City of Glendale](http://www.cityofglendale.org) is pleased to announce it has issued a notice of intent to award a contract for the professional management of the city-owned [Gila River Arena](#) to [AEG Facilities](#). A notice of intent is a recommendation that initiates negotiations with AEG Facilities to manage the sports and entertainment arena. AEG Facilities is a stand-alone affiliate of AEG, the world's largest owner of sports franchises, including the two-time Stanley Cup Champion Los Angeles Kings, venues and provider of event programming for these facilities.

Based in Los Angeles, AEG owns, operates or consults with more than 120 elite venues worldwide, including [STAPLES Center](#) in Los Angeles. AEG also developed [L.A. LIVE](#), the sports and entertainment district adjacent to STAPLES Center, Microsoft Theater and the Los Angeles Convention Center, as well as [The O2](#), a 28-acre development located in the eastern part of London along the Thames River which includes a 20,000-seat arena and over 650,000 square feet of leisure and entertainment use. [AEG Live](#), the organization's live entertainment division, is the world's second largest concert promotion and touring company. It works with acts ranging from some of the most recognized performing artists in the world, to the rising superstars of tomorrow and it is comprised of touring, festival, exhibition and special event divisions.

"Making Gila River Arena a top facility in North America while supporting the Arizona Coyotes and synergies with Westgate Entertainment District is a priority for the city and a vision AEG shares with us," said Glendale City Manager Kevin Phelps. "This is good for the taxpayers, good for local business and the best option for keeping the [Arizona Coyotes](#) in Glendale in the current state-of-the-art facility."

Selecting the finalist is the first step in securing a manager for Gila River Arena. The next step would be for the City of Glendale to enter into an arena services contract with AEG Facilities. “We look forward to negotiating a contract with AEG Facilities to provide the array of services our venue requires with cost certainty to the City of Glendale. Once this is in place, it is our hope that together we can develop the framework for a long-term lease to secure the Arizona Coyotes as the anchor tenant of Gila River Arena beyond the 2016-17 season,” said Assistant City Manager Tom Duensing.

AEG has prior experience in Gila River Arena providing content development services for the venue from 2006-2009 resulting in booking the busiest schedule of concerts, family shows and other special events in the history of the arena while still being home to the Coyotes.

“It is an honor to once again be affiliated with Gila River Arena,” said Chuck Steedman, Chief Operating Officer, AEG Facilities. “We look forward to working with the City of Glendale, the Arizona Coyotes and the numerous community stakeholders and partners affiliated with this important arena.”

Three global management companies, AEG Facilities, Spectra and SMG submitted bids to Beacon Sports Capital Partners to succeed IceArizona as the corporate entity responsible for running the arena. It is anticipated that an agreement approved by the Mayor and Council will be reached in the next 60 days.

#### **ABOUT: Gila River Arena**

Gila River Arena attracts over one-million visitors annually to more than 100 sports and entertainment events. Opened in December of 2003, the Gila River Arena is a state-of-the-art multi-purpose sports and entertainment facility situated on 13.5 acres in the City of Glendale. The arena anchors the Westgate Entertainment District located on 223 acres for shopping, dining, entertainment and commercial offices. The Arena is also adjacent to the University of Phoenix Stadium, home to the NFL’s Arizona Cardinals and the annual Fiesta Bowl. [www.gilariverarena.com](http://www.gilariverarena.com)

#### **ABOUT: AEG Facilities**

AEG, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Anschutz Corporation, is the leading sports, entertainment and venue operator in the world. AEG Facilities, a stand-alone affiliate of AEG, owns, operates or consults with more than 120 of the industry’s preeminent venues worldwide, across five continents, providing complete venue management, as well as specialized programs in operations, guest services, ticketing, booking, sales and marketing. AEG Facilities also provides resources and access to other AEG-affiliated entities, including live event producer, AEG Live, AEG Global Partnerships, AEG Development, AEG 1Earth, AEG Encore and AEG Creative to support the success of AEG venues across the globe. The Los Angeles-based organization owns, operates or provides services to the world’s most elite venues, including KFC Yum! Center (Louisville, Ky.), STAPLES Center (Los Angeles, Calif.), StubHub Center (Carson, Calif.), Microsoft Theater (Los Angeles, Calif.), Sprint Center (Kansas City, Mo.), AmericanAirlines Arena (Miami, Fla.), Prudential Center (Newark, N.J.), Target Center (Minneapolis, Minn.), BBVA Compass Stadium (Houston, Texas), Oracle Arena and O.co Coliseum (Oakland, Calif.), CONSOL Energy Center (Pittsburgh, Penn.), Valley View Casino Center (San Diego, CA), Rabobank Arena (Bakersfield, Calif.), Mercedes-Benz Arena (Shanghai,

China), MasterCard Center (Beijing, China), The O2 (London, England), AccorHotels Arena (Paris, France), Mercedes-Benz Arena (Berlin, Germany), Barclaycard Arena (Hamburg, Germany), Perth Arena (Perth, Australia), Maracanã Stadium (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil), Allianz Parque (Sao Paulo, Brazil), Allphones Arena (Sydney, Australia), Ülker Sports Arena (Istanbul, Turkey), Ericsson Globe Arena (Stockholm, Sweden) and KeyArena at Seattle Center (Seattle, Washington). For more information, please visit; [www.aegworldwide.com](http://www.aegworldwide.com) .

For more information about the City of Glendale please visit [www.glendaleaz.com](http://www.glendaleaz.com)

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